

TW
AF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HAATAJA ET AL. Examiner: M. JIMENEZ
Serial No.: 16/626,106 Group Art Unit: 3726
Filed: JULY 23, 2003 Docket: 2316.1196USD1
Confirmation No.: 8972 Due Date: APRIL 9, 2007
Title: METHOD OF ASSEMBLING A CABLE SYSTEM HAVING A TELESOPING TROUGH

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on March 28, 2007.

By: Carla J. Catalano
Name: Carla J. Catalano

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Communication
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: Karen A. Fitzsimmons
Name: Karen A. Fitzsimmons
Reg. No.: 50,470
KFitzsimmons/cjc



N 10/626,106

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	HAATAJA ET AL.	Examiner:	M. JIMENEZ
Serial No.:	10/626,106	Group Art Unit:	3726
Filed:	JULY 23, 2003	Docket No.:	2316.1196USD1
Title:	METHOD OF ASSEMBLING A CABLE SYSTEM HAVING A TELESCOPING TROUGH		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on March 28, 2007.

By: *Carla J. Catalano*
Name: Carla J. Catalano

COMMUNICATION

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Communication is submitted in reply to the Notification for Non-Compliant Appeal Brief dated March 9, 2007.

With regards to Item 2 of the Notification, information concerning the cancellation of claims in Section III of the Appeal Brief has been incorporated into a supplemental Section III, enclosed herewith. Applicants believe that submission of an entire new brief is not required. If this belief is incorrect, immediate notification is requested.

With regards to Item 4 of the Notification, Applicants have revised Section V of the Appeal Brief, as requested by the Examiner. It is noted that reference to the parent application (S/N: 09/578,300) was provided for additional support of that particular preceding limitation. Pursuant to MPEP 1205.03(B), a supplemental Section V of the Appeal Brief is enclosed herewith.

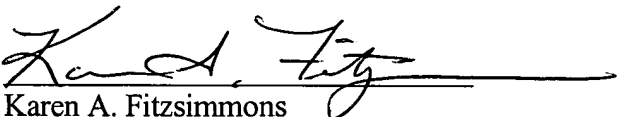
It is believed that the above amendments address the general statement of Item 1 of the Notification.



Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: March 28, 2007


Karen A. Fitzsimmons
Reg. No. 50,470

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Original claims 10-19 are cancelled in light of a Restriction Requirement and Applicant's election of claims 1-9.

Claims 1-9 and 20-29 are currently rejected.

The rejection of each of claim 1-9 and 20-29 is being appealed.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Independent Claim 1 concerns a method of assembling a cable routing system. The method includes providing first and second U-shaped spaced apart end members (e.g., 16; FIG. 1) and a telescoping U-shaped trough (12). The telescoping U-shaped trough has first and second trough sections (24, 26), each having a terminal end (42, 72) and a receiving end (40, 70); see FIGS. 10 and 13. The receiving ends (40, 70) of the trough sections are in sliding contact with one another (Spec. page 4, lines 26-27). The terminal ends (42, 72) have the same connecting configuration such that the telescoping U-shaped trough is reversible (Spec. page 2, lines 15-17; and page 5, lines 1-4). The method further includes positioning the reversible telescoping U-shaped trough (12, FIG. 1) between the first and second end members (e.g., 16), and connecting the trough sections (24, 26) of the reversible telescoping U-shaped trough (12) to the end members. The first and second trough sections remain freely slideable when one of the trough sections (24, 26) is disconnected from the respective end member (Spec. page 2, lines 14-17; and, page 4, lines 25-27).

Independent Claim 2 concerns a method of assembling a cable routing system. The method includes providing first and second end members (e.g., 16, FIG. 1) spaced apart a fixed distance, and a telescoping cable trough (12) having first and second trough sections (24, 26) in sliding contact with one another (Spec. page 4, lines 26-27). The method also includes positioning the telescoping cable trough (12) between the first and second end members, selectively connecting the first trough section (24) to either one of the first and second end members, and connecting the second trough section (26) to the other end member. The first trough section (24) is connectable to both of either one of the first and second end members (Spec. page 2, lines 15-17; and page 5, lines 1-4). The first and second trough sections (24, 26) remain freely slideable upon disconnecting at least one of the trough sections from the respective end member (Spec. page 2, lines 14-17; and, page 4, lines 25-27).

Independent Claim 20 concerns a method of assembling a cable routing system. The method includes providing first and second cable trough members (e.g., 16; FIG. 1), having ends, and a telescoping trough (12) having first and second trough sections (24, 26) in sliding contact with one another (Spec. page 4, lines 26-27). Sliding movement of the trough sections (24, 26) is limited between a minimum extension position and a maximum extension position to prevent sliding separation of the trough sections (24, 26) (Spec. page 4, lines 14-16; and page 6, lines 7-8 and 25-26). The method also includes positioning the telescoping trough (12) between the ends of the cable trough members, and connecting the trough sections (24, 26) to the ends of the cable trough members. The trough sections (24, 26) remain freely slideable upon disconnecting at least one of the trough sections from the respective end of the trough members (Spec. page 2, lines 14-17; and, page 4, lines 25-27).